

# FOX POINT BAYSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Significantly Exceeds Expectations 2012-2024*  
603 E Ellsworth Lane, Bayside, WI 53217  
(414) 247-4167

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**MARCH 5**

**PTO Board Meeting**

7:00 p.m. at District Office

**MARCH 7**

**Educational Foundation Fundraiser**

6:00 p.m. at Schlitz Audubon Nature Center

**MARCH 17**

**School Board Meeting**

6:00 p.m. at District Office

**MARCH 24-28**

**Spring Break**

**APRIL 3**

**Stormonth Birthday Party**

5:00 p.m. at Stormonth Elementary

**STAY UP-TO-DATE ON ALL THE  
LATEST EVENTS AT FPBS BY  
FOLLOWING US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

 Fox Point-Bayside School District

 Stormonth Elementary School  @stormonthelementary

 Bayside Middle School  @baysidefpbs

## FOX POINT-BAYSIDE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER WINTER 2025



## LETTER FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Fox Point-Bayside School Community:

It's hard to believe we've already entered the second trimester of the 2024-25 school year. Time certainly flies, and with it comes exciting updates and milestones to share. In this edition of the newsletter, you'll find highlights of our district's continued achievements, including our impressive State Report Card results, updates on how our strategic plan is shaping classroom experiences and invitations to celebrate **Stormonth's 90th Birthday Party**.

Of particular note, **Superintendent Dr. Jeff Dellutri has announced his retirement, effective June 30, 2025**. Over his tenure, Dr. Dellutri has led our district to achieve remarkable success, including:

- Fulfilling a generational, academic promise to provide an exceptional school experience for all students through the construction of a brand new Bayside Middle School and renovations of Stormonth Elementary;
- Leading our five-year "Framework for Our Future" strategic plan, a visionary roadmap guiding District priorities to ensure an enriching academic and personal experience for both our students and faculty;
- Achieving record performance on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction report card, continuing to "Significantly Exceed Expectations" year after year;
- Ranking as the third-best school district in the state of Wisconsin for 2024 by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction;
- Bayside Middle School earning recognition as a 2022 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education for academic excellence;
- Being recognized as a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel 2021 Top Workplace;
- Navigating the difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic; and more.

On behalf of the school board, I express our deepest gratitude to Dr. Dellutri for his leadership, dedication and lasting impact on our schools and community. We wish him a well-earned, restful retirement. **The search for our new superintendent is well underway**. We are committed to a collaborative, inclusive process that engages our community, staff, and stakeholders.

This will be a transformative year for Fox Point-Bayside, and the School Board is ready to embrace the opportunities that lie ahead in 2025.

**Dr. David E. Melbye**, School Board President

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH UPDATE

At the school board meeting on November 18, 2024, Superintendent Dr. Jeff Dellutri submitted his request for retirement, which the board approved to take effect on June 30, 2025.

On December 17, the board enlisted the services of the Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) to facilitate a collaborative and transparent search process to select our next superintendent who will continue our tradition of academic excellence.



**OUR GOAL IS TO FILL  
THIS CRITICAL POSITION  
BY SPRING 2025.**

## SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH TIMELINE & SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

VACANCY NOTICE POSTED	January 16, 2025
COMMUNITY SURVEY	January 14 – February 1, 2025
FOCUS GROUPS	January 28, 2025
APPLICATION FOR POSITION POSTED TO WASB	February 4, 2025
APPLICATION DEADLINE	February 25, 2025
INTERVIEWS WITH FINALISTS	Tentative March 18, 2025
ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUPERINTENDENT	April 2025
POSITION START	July 1, 2025

## WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR?

The school board has been hard at work gathering input from families, staff and community members to identify the qualities and priorities our community values most in the next superintendent. Information about how to participate in the community survey and focus groups was mailed to all residents. Thank you to all who shared feedback!

## WHAT'S NEXT?

Families, staff and community members will continue to play an essential role in the process through opportunities to meet the finalists. Details about these engagements will be shared in the coming months.



Please direct questions about the superintendent search and hiring process to Board Treasurer Tina Kreitlow, [tkreitlow@foxbay.org](mailto:tkreitlow@foxbay.org), and Director of Business Services Kathleen Wiesner, [kwiesner@foxbay.org](mailto:kwiesner@foxbay.org).

To stay updated on the entire search process, scan the QR code. We appreciate the community's engagement and look forward to the next steps in this vital process!



**Building Our Future**  
**FOX POINT BAYSIDE**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**STORMONTH**  
**STORM**

**Celebrating  
90 Years of Stormonth  
Elementary School**  
5 - 7 p.m. | Thursday, April 3, 2025

## SAVE THE DATE

### CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF STORMONTH ELEMENTARY

Stormonth is turning 90! Join us at Stormonth Elementary on Thursday, April 3, for an evening featuring **snacks, games and arts & crafts** for the kids and an opportunity to see our newly renovated spaces!

### 2025 SUMMER PATHWAYS

We are so excited to bring back our summer school program this year – Summer Pathways! Summer Pathways is open to all district residents



K4-seventh grade. Registration opens on March 17 at 4 p.m. Visit our website to learn more!



#### Save the Date for Summer Pathways 2025!

**Important information for this year's program:**

SESSION 1:  
June 23 - July 3  
8:00 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.

SESSION 2:  
July 8 - July 18  
8:00 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.

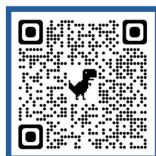
## STORMONTH ELEMENTARY KINDERGARTEN

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!



**K4 CLASSES | 4 YEARS OLD  
ON OR BEFORE SEPT. 1**

**K5 CLASSES | 5 YEARS OLD  
ON OR BEFORE SEPT. 1**



### K4 AND K5 REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2025-26 four-year-old and five-year-old kindergarten programs is now open! **Scan the QR code to learn how to register** and discover what makes Stormonth Elementary one of the top-ranked elementary schools in the state.

# STATE OF THE DISTRICT



FROM THE DESK OF  
**Dr. Jeff Dellutri, Superintendent**

## SCHOOL BUDGETING IN WISCONSIN

Every two years, the State of Wisconsin sets its budget, impacting school funding. Despite a \$4.6 billion General Fund surplus, the state's share of K-12 funding has dropped from 43.1% in 2003 to 36.6% in 2023. **As state funding has failed to keep pace with inflation, school districts across Wisconsin have increasingly turned to operational referendums to bridge the gap.** In fact, 2024 saw a record number of school district operational referendums across the state.



### ➤ THE ROLE OF OPERATIONAL REFERENDUMS

Fox Point-Bayside has passed four-year operational referendums in 2014, 2018 and 2022 to sustain daily operations like teacher and staff salaries, staffing levels and small class sizes, and maintain current programs and services. **The current referendum is funding operations through June 2027.** The amount of the next replacement operational referendum will be largely determined by the K12 funding approved by the State Legislature and Governor in the 2025-27 Biennial Budget. We hope that the 2025-27 Biennial Budget will include sufficient, sustainable funding for schools across the state.

### ➤ ADVOCACY FOR SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

To address the state budget challenges, the district actively works with the Wisconsin School Administrators Alliance to advocate for sustainable, predictable and flexible state funding. Key priorities include:

1

#### INCREASED SPECIAL EDUCATION AID

Raising reimbursement levels to 60% would ease financial pressure and reduce reliance on general education funds.

2

#### INFLATION-ADJUSTED REVENUE LIMITS

Providing school districts with revenue increases tied to inflation would help maintain financial stability.

3

#### BALANCED STATE AID

A combination of revenue limit increases, general aid and per-pupil funding would provide more equitable resources for districts of all sizes.

4

#### RAISING THE MINIMUM REVENUE LIMIT

Increasing the statewide minimum revenue limit would help reduce disparities between districts and lessen the need for operational referendums.

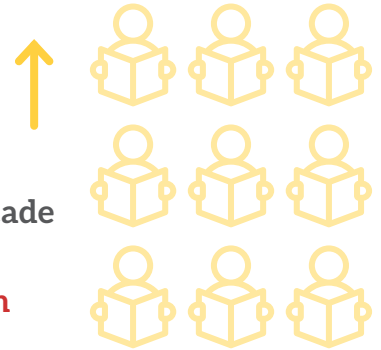
These recommendations are strategically aimed to provide school districts with the resources they need to meet the diverse needs of their students, with a particular focus on special education funding, flexible revenue streams and addressing disparities between low-revenue districts.



## ▶ PROJECTED ENROLLMENT GROWTH

As our district looks to the future, **one of the key factors influencing our financial planning is enrollment growth.** A recent study by UW-Madison's Applied Population Lab projects significant enrollment growth in Fox Point-Bayside over the next five years. Key findings include:

- Birth rates in the district have been rising since the mid-2000s and are **expected to continue increasing.**
- The number of households with school-age children has grown, with **more young families moving into the area.**
- Kindergarten enrollment has steadily increased over the last decade and is **projected to continue its upward trend.**
- Overall, **K4-eighth grade enrollment is expected to grow between 12-18.5%, with the strongest gains in fifth through eighth grade.**



Enrollment growth is significant because **state funding for schools is partly based on student population.** As Fox Point-Bayside's enrollment increases, it may qualify for additional state aid. However, if the state does not adequately adjust funding levels to account for this growth, the district will still need to rely more on local funding sources, including operational referendums.

## ▶ NON-RESIDENT ENROLLMENT CHANGES

As resident enrollment increases, we face shifts in our enrollment policies. **The district has phased out the Chapter 220 voluntary integration program,** which ended through state legislation in 2015-16, with the 2024-25 school year. The program allowed students to complete their education in their non-resident school district.

Additionally, as the number of resident students continues to grow, the district has had to limit open enrollment seats in recent years. **With projected increases in resident enrollment, Fox Point-Bayside will not offer any new open enrollment seats for the 2025-26 school year.**

## ▶ BUDGET PROJECTIONS

The district is actively planning for the future as we navigate the impact of enrollment growth and the need for sustainable state funding. **As outlined in Pillar 2 of our strategic plan "Framework for Our Future," we are committed to being good stewards of the district's financial resources.** As such, we are focused on ensuring financial stability and preparing for various scenarios, including the potential need for additional resources. Our goal is to continue to provide high-quality education while balancing the district's financial health.

**GET  
INVOLVED**

**STATE FUNDING DECISIONS WILL SHAPE THE FUTURE OF OUR SCHOOLS.**

Attend a school board meeting to stay informed and engaged in the conversation. If you have questions about district finances, please contact Director of Business Services Kathleen Wiesner at [kwiesner@foxbay.org](mailto:kwiesner@foxbay.org)





# STORMONTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

Andrew Joseph, Principal, Stormonth Elementary School

At Stormonth, we believe connecting and learning from our world and community helps make our school a special space. We strive to create engaging experiences that connect classroom concepts to the real world, fostering a deeper understanding and love for learning.

For example, our **third graders recently celebrated "Hibernation Day,"** a cozy day of reading, storytelling and creative projects following their in-depth study of how animals prepare for the winter season. This hands-on experience brought their learning to life, making it memorable and meaningful. Furthermore, our partnership with the **Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra's (MSO) Arts in Community Education (ACE) program brings world-renowned musicians into our classrooms.** Students are captivated by live performances, sparking their interest in music and the arts. **Author visits ignite imaginations and inspire a passion for reading and writing,** showing students that they too can become storytellers.

These enriching experiences demonstrate our commitment to providing a well-rounded education that goes beyond academics. **By connecting learning to real-world experiences, we empower our students to become curious, engaged and lifelong learners.**



First graders learned about the wide range of instruments in the percussion family through a classroom visit from the MSO Percussion Duo. Instruments and compositions from around the world help support Stormonth's efforts to highlight artists and creators from different cultures and traditions around the world.



There is nothing cozier than settling in with a good book! "Hibernation Day" challenged third graders to create the perfect habitat for a relaxing day of reading. Stormonth teachers are constantly finding connections between classroom subjects and activities to bring learning to life.



Kindergarten students learned about the string family of instruments, along with what it means to be an outstanding audience member. **Through the ACE program, sponsored by the Educational Foundation, Stormonth students learn alongside members of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and other professional artists in the Milwaukee community.**



**Second grade students explored the art, culture and music of Mexico at our annual Fall Folk Fest.** Students learned traditional songs and dances and performed for their families with the support of a live mariachi band. This event was sponsored through a generous grant from the Fox Point-Bayside Parent Teacher Organization.

▶ Want more news? Connect with us on social media: Stormonth Elementary School @stormonthelementary



# BAYSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

Jodi Hackl, Principal, Bayside Middle School

The winter season brought exciting opportunities for Bayside students, including participation in various groups and clubs such as girls and boys basketball and ski & snowboard club. We are especially proud of our Bayside performing arts groups. Our band, choir and orchestra recently presented their winter music concerts, showcasing some incredible student talent! It was exciting to entertain our audiences for the first time in our brand new venue, enjoying the use of our new stage and gymnasium! Some highlights from these wonderful programs are featured below:



Over 125 students across four grade levels are participating in our Bayside bands this year! Seventh and eighth grade band students also have the opportunity to perform in two jazz band groups. For the second year in a row, jazz band students attended the Chicagoland Jazz Workshop on January 25. This daylong workshop brings together area high schools and middle schools, renowned artists and inspiring clinicians to provide an educational and listening experience for students and music educators. Students started the day off with a cultural activity at Mitsuwa in Arlington Heights and then took part in the competition!

The ski & snowboard club continues to be a popular activity, and this year is no different. We had another record number of participants with approximately 160 students attending four total outings to Little Switzerland in January and February. We are grateful to the club advisors, chaperones and parents who help make this club a success.

In January, our seventh grade students took part in a unique winter camping experience at Camp MacLean in Burlington, Wisconsin. Students developed their sense of team and cooperation through various outdoor education programs and activities. Students spent three days enjoying the outdoors while staying mostly technology free!



Bayside choir just finished presenting their winter concerts in January. Over 90 students participated in these performances. An added feature this year was the inclusion of student instrumentalists accompanying the choir on selected pieces. This showcased additional student talent and enhanced the enjoyment of our audience.

Bayside orchestra enjoyed a strong start to the year as they presented their winter concerts under the direction of our orchestra teacher, Ms. Lauren Harvath. Currently there are over 55 students, school-wide, participating in the Bayside orchestra.



The seventh and eighth grade girls basketball team had a short six-week season, finishing with two wins and six losses. They consistently demonstrated tremendous effort, support for each other, excellent sportsmanship and inspiring teamwork. They showed

resilience and never gave up, despite some narrow losses and challenging games. The team capped off the season with an exciting student and faculty basketball game. We extend our best wishes to the graduating eighth graders and hope they continue to play basketball at the high school level.



Want more news? Connect with us on social media



Bayside Middle School



@baysidefpbs



# DISTRICT REPORT CARD



We are pleased to share the fantastic news that the Fox Point-Bayside School District **“Significantly Exceeds Expectations,”** according to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI). The DPI recently released district and school report cards for the 2023-24 school year, and our district received an **outstanding rating of 93.8!**



Our schools also earned impressive marks: Stormonth Elementary scored **93.6** and Bayside Middle School scored a historic high of **94.0**. To learn more and view the report card, scan the QR code:



The district and school report cards provided by the DPI are intended to create a more standardized methodology for our parents and community members to determine the effectiveness of their local districts and schools. The report cards also include scores for each district and school in four priority areas: Student Achievement, Student Growth, Target Group Outcomes and On-Track to Graduation.

These outstanding ratings highlight the incredible dedication of our students, staff and community, showcasing significant progress toward our strategic goal of fostering students' academic curiosity.

**WE TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN OUR DISTRICT AND EAGERLY ANTICIPATE MANY MORE YEARS OF PERSONAL AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS.**





## FRAMEWORK FOR OUR FUTURE IN FOCUS: RULER

This school year, we officially launched RULER, an evidence-based approach to social and emotional learning (SEL) developed by the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence. This program was created to support the social-emotional needs of our students, reflecting our commitment to prioritizing their holistic well-being, as outlined in Pillar 3 in our strategic plan Framework for Our Future.

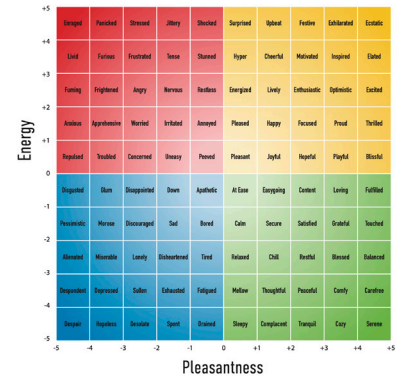
Social and emotional learning strengthens academic performance, resilience and relationships. By equipping students with emotional intelligence skills, we help them navigate challenges, communicate effectively and build empathy.

Since its implementation, teachers have shared that their classrooms have a great sense of community due to the shared language RULER embeds into everyday interactions. Teachers have also reported increased participation and leadership from students due to high levels of engagement.

**WHAT IS RULER?** RULER—short for Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing and Regulating emotions—is now fully embedded in classrooms across our district. Students use tools like the “Mood Meter” to identify their feelings and build emotional awareness. In kindergarten and first grade, the Best Self lessons are fostering strong home-school connections. By embedding emotional intelligence practices into daily learning, we’re equipping students with skills that extend far beyond the classroom, preparing them for success in relationships, academics and future challenges they may face.

## MOOD METER

How are you feeling?



The Mood Meter helps students identify their current emotional state by considering if they feel up or down, pleasant or unpleasant, energized or depleted. This practice builds emotional vocabulary and supports emotional wellness.



This class of third graders created and signed their class charter, an agreement they created together outlining encouraged classroom behaviors.

## IMPLEMENTING RULER AT HOME

Parents and caregivers are essential to this initiative, and we’re excited to welcome our parent liaison, Krystal Melbye. Krystal is a certified parent coach, Love and Logic Trainer, and Siblings Without Rivalry Trainer with a background in elementary and special education. She has been collaborating with the district to connect families with resources to reinforce RULER principles at home. To further support this partnership, we’re offering workshops that provide practical tools and insights that align with what students are learning.

To explore how RULER can make a difference for your family, join our upcoming workshop at the district office hosted by Krystal Melbye. These one-hour sessions will be held at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. and are open to all caregivers. Together, we’re building a school community where emotional wellness and academic success go hand in hand.

**TOPICS COVERED: “THE META MOMENT” AND “THE BLUEPRINT”**

**MARCH 11, 2025**  
**1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.**

District Office  
(Door #8 at Bayside  
Middle School)

# FOX POINT-BAYSIDE PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION

## HAPPY NEW YEAR, EVERYONE!

I hope you're all enjoying the winter season, especially with the ice rink back at Longacre Pavilion! It's been fun seeing our community come together to enjoy the space.

If you haven't already, **please take a moment to create a Membership Toolkit account to ensure you get all of our updates, including Room Rep communications.** As an added benefit of paying the membership fee and supporting the PTO, you'll also get access to the student directory and our faculty favorites list. **Pro tip: make sure to use the same email you have for Infinite Campus.**

Here's a quick recap of our top fall successes, thanks to your generous support: conference dinners for all staff, Bike-to-School Day at Stormonth, a record-breaking Monster Bash, raising over \$16,000 to benefit our schools, BANs & KinderKid Date Night - all great ways to connect outside of school!

Looking ahead, we're excited to review grant proposals and discuss how we can continue to bring meaningful improvements to our classrooms and provide more resources for students. We're in the early stages of planning the Cupcake Run for early June.

If you're interested in volunteering, reach out to GayAnne Ketter at [gayannelynch@gmail.com](mailto:gayannelynch@gmail.com).

### A FEW REMINDERS:

- ✔ Follow us on Facebook (@FPBSPTO) and Instagram (@fpbspto) for updates.
- ✔ Create your Membership Toolkit account and download the app.
- ✔ Use the Room Rep communications and Facebook to plan fun get-togethers with your child's classmates.
- ✔ Check the Friday Folders and Daily Communication Folder for updates.
- ✔ Join us at our monthly PTO meetings on the first Wednesday of each odd month at 7:00 p.m.

Thank you all for your continued support. Together, we're making a difference for our schools and our students. Thank you to our premiere sponsor, Midwest Orthopedic Specialty Hospital, who generously supports our efforts for the whole year.

**Kaitlin Torres**  
2024-25 Fox Point-Bayside PTO President



## JOIN US FOR THE FOX POINT-BAYSIDE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER



**LIGHT UP**



**THE FUTURE**



**FRIDAY NIGHT** **MAR 07**  
**SIX TO TEN PM**  
**PARTY-CHIC**

**HIKE ON OVER TO THE**   
**Schlitz Audubon Nature Center**  
1111 East Brown Deer Road  
Bayside, Wisconsin

**FOOD, DRINKS, CASINO GAMES AND FUN!**  
**\$100/TICKET**  
**PARTY-CHIC**

TICKETS ON SALE AT [TICKETS ON SALE AT HTTPS://NEW.BIDDINGOWL.COM/LIGHTUPTHEFUTURE](https://new.biddingowl.com/lightupthefuture)  
**TICKETS ARE LIMITED. DON'T WAIT TO PURCHASE!**

# FOUNDATION UPDATE



Fox Point-Bayside District Newsletter  
Winter 2025

## Together, Let's Light Up the Future!

Thanks to the generous support of our community, the Fox Point-Bayside Educational Foundation continues to support opportunities that foster engagement, innovation and curiosity for students across the district. This year's annual appeal has helped fund transformative initiatives, including STEAM programming, expanded partnerships with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra's ACE program, continuation of the Youth Frontiers' Courage Retreat for seventh graders and art equipment for new curriculum at Bayside Middle School, all designed to inspire creativity, critical thinking and personal growth.

Our upcoming fundraising event, Light Up the Future, on Friday, March 7, at Schlitz Audubon Nature Center will build on this momentum by also supporting the Stormonth Sound & Lights Project, **which will upgrade the outdated production equipment in the Stormonth Elementary gymnasium with modern sound and lighting, creating a more engaging and inclusive performance space.** These improvements will allow all students to fully participate in assemblies and performances, fostering confidence, collaboration and creativity.



The Foundation relies on community contributions to support initiatives and programming that provide exceptional experiences for our students above and beyond what is possible through the district budget. **Join us at our Light Up the Future event to help us reach our \$50,000 goal. Together, we can make a lasting difference in the lives of our students and our district.**

Tickets are limited so don't wait to purchase! Get yours now by scanning the QR code. Don't miss this exciting evening of entertainment, delicious food, and community celebration!



**THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS\*  
WHOSE DONATIONS BRING THIS EVENT TO LIFE!**



### SPOTLIGHT \$2,500

The Cook Family  
The Kamm Family  
The Stickler Family



### SHIMMER \$1000+

Gielow's Lawn & Garden Equipment  
GO Riteway Transportation Group  
Huffman Keel Partners, Inc  
Midwest Orthopedic Specialty Hospital  
Mueller Communications  
Sue Bazelon  
Willette Knopp  
Rebecca and Seth Wahlberg

### SPARK \$500

Professional Grounds Management  
Westfahl & Westfahl, S.C.  
Amy & Adam Bazelon  
Anne and Mark Berkoff  
The Carlson Family  
Ruth Gosse  
Abby and David Schwartz

### FRIEND \$250

Jason and Jessie Allen Family  
Monica and David Arnstein  
Linda Roberts

\* List of sponsors as of January 28, 2025





*Significantly Exceeds Expectations 2012-2024*

603 E Ellsworth Lane, Bayside, WI 53217

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Milwaukee, WI  
Permit No. 4429



# Celebrating 90 Years of Stormonth Elementary School

5 - 7 p.m. | Thursday, April 3, 2025

**You're Invited!** Join us to celebrate Stormonth's 90th birthday and the recently completed renovations!